



Governor Terry E. Branstad
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds
San Wong, Director

**JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL
DMC Subcommittee
Minutes of Regular Meeting**

Polk County River Place
2309 Euclid Avenue, Room 3A
Des Moines, Iowa

August 17, 2016

Present: Wayne Ford, Chair; Kim Cheeks; LaTasha DeLoach; Bob Greenlee; Stephanie Hernandez; Sandy Lint; Sanjita Pradhan; John Spinks; Miguel Trevino; John Wauters

Others: Vivian Hayashi, Univ. of Iowa

Staff: San Wong; Steve Michael; Dave Kuker; Julie Rinker

- **Welcome/Introductions/Agenda - Additions/Amendments**

Wayne Ford, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m. and welcomed those in attendance. Introductions were made. A quorum was not present until later in the meeting. The minutes were approved at that time. There were no changes to the agenda.

- **Approval of May 11, 2016 Meeting Summary**

LaTasha DeLoach moved to approve the minutes from the May meeting, seconded by John Spinks. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Follow-Up - June 2016 Community Planning Event**

Ford discussed the June 15th "Equal Rights for Juveniles" community planning event. He was pleased with the work to reduce DMC.

Dave Kuker reported on the one-day conference—nine communities, 120 attendees. Presenters included Chief Justice Mark Cady; system youth; and James Bell, facilitator. Kuker reviewed strategies for continued follow up with community leaders to further advance DMC efforts. Copies of presentations and data are available on CJJP's [website](#).

Members commented on the quality of the youth presenters and were hopeful they would join the DMC Subcommittee. DeLoach noted that due to relations in Iowa City, the female student and her family are moving out of state.

Other discussion included concerns expressed during the minority youth meetings related to searches of backpacks by school and law enforcement personnel. Kim Cheeks noted that

the ACLU provided “know your rights” information to youth who attended DHR’s Youth Empowerment Program (YEP).

DeLoach moved to approve staff review of ‘search and seizure’ laws and school policies regarding what constitutes a legal search, seconded by Stephanie Hernandez. The motion was unanimously approved.

Spinks suggested DMC membership expand outside of agency staff to include community members to educate them on local efforts. He would like to capture data from youth/families to determine if recommendations are working; if they were treated respectfully and fairly; and if they were led through the process by system personnel—a “customer satisfaction” survey. There was consensus to hold meetings with minority families.

Sandy Lint discussed efforts in DHS and Polk County. She suggested Teresa Burke present information on Courageous Conversations training. An African-American review committee in DHS determines if placements were appropriate. Kuker will invite Burke to the November meeting.

Sanjita Pradhan noted private sector efforts by the Greater Des Moines Partnership related to diversity and inclusion. The Partnership’s Inclusion Council has focused on Des Moines’ ranking as one of the “Worst Cities for African Americans” [published in October, 2015]. An event is planned in September for middle level corporate managers.

- **Attendee Survey**

Kuker reported that the post-conference survey was completed by approximately fifty percent of the attendees. The information was included in the meeting packet.

- **CASP Report Update to Governor, Attorney General, Chief Justice, and Key State Agency Heads**

Kuker reported that the State Court Administrator’s (SCA) office will complete the update to the CASP (Community and Strategic Planning) Report originally issued in November, 2014; The report will include progress on recommended activities, state agency updates, and local data for the nine communities. It will be shared with Chief Justice Cady, Governor Branstad, and other relevant state agency directors and legislators.

- **DMC Reduction Plan 2015/16**

- **Local DMC Collaboration and Plan Development Effort**
- **Discussions With State Leaders**
- **Ongoing Provision of Data**
- **State-Level DMC Summit**
- **Implementation of Electronic Version of DST**

Kuker noted that the above items are part of the goals for the DMC Subcommittee under the Juvenile Justice Advisory Council. Many of the items listed have been accomplished over the last several months.

- **Legislative Priorities**

As discussed, there was consensus to determine what constitutes a legal search/seizure and to hold hearings regarding minority experiences with the juvenile justice system.

- **Local DMC Updates**

Scott County—Miguel Trevino reported that the diversion program for simple misdemeanor, first offense, has received 80% participation during the last two sessions. The program focuses on decision making. Participants in the Georgetown University training are conducting presentations at the national DMC Conference in Baltimore.

Stephanie Hernandez added that the diversion program allows providers to educate attendees about services. A program called Total Child works with the entire family unit for youth aged 5-18.

Polk County—Kuker reported that a local DMC committee has been seated. Judges Romonda Belcher and Colin Witt are facilitating.

Black Hawk—Greenlee thought that juvenile court and law enforcement have been doing a good job.

Johnson County—DeLoach reported that the assistant superintendent is participating in local DMC activities. A climate survey is being conducted on all the schools and focuses on DMC, student treatment, and discipline. The purpose is to determine what is driving disparity. Thus far, achievement data match the climate. Follow up will include whether discipline protocols are being followed and if not, why. A fall forum is being planned, a theme has not been determined. The county is hiring an adult DMC coordinator and will help kids transition from juvenile to adult court.

- **Future Meetings - 11/9/16 DMC GoTo Meeting**

Greenlee moved to adjourn, seconded by Lint. The meeting adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker
Administrative Secretary
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning
Iowa Department of Human Rights